

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 CCO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY NEA TASK FORCE:DAKORN:EMP

APPROVED BY NEA-JJSISCO

EUR:WSTABLER

EUR/WE:RVINE

S/S-O:G. TWOHIE

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O R 130019Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T STATE 203467

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, IS

SUBJ: SALE OF BLANKETS TO ISRAEL

REF : (A) ROOME 11067; (B) ROME 11092

1. APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ITALIAN SENSITIVITIES. WE OBVIOUSLY DO NOT WISH TO DO ANYTHING THAT WOULD BE LIKELY TO HAVE SERIOUS IMPACT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ITALY. AT SAME TIME, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE RESPONSIVE TO ISRAELI REQUEST, AND WE ARE CONCERNED THAT COURSES OF ACTION PROPOSED ROME 11092 WOULD IN FACT RESULT IN CONSIDERABLE DELAY IN SUPPLY OF BLANKETS, IF NOT OUTRIGHT TURN DOWN.

2. DEPARTMENT PROPOSES FOLLOWING. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM APPROPRIATE GOI AUTHORITY THAT IT HAS REQUEST FROM ISRAELI EMBASSY FOR PURCHASE OF 10,000 MILITARY BLANKETS FOR USE OF WAR PRISONERS. USG WISHES TO BE RESPONSIVE TO THIS ISRAELI REQUEST, WHICH IN OUR VIEW DOES NOT IN ANY
SECRET

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WAY INVOLVE WAR MATERIAL AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS HUMANITARIAN IN AIM. BLANKETS INVOLVED ARE ALL FROM USG STOCKS. WASHINGTON HAS GIVEN ITS APPROVAL FOR SALE. THEREFORE EMBASSY PLANS GO AHEAD TO MAKE BLANKETS AVAIL-

ABLE TO BE LOADED ON ISRAELI SHIP SCHEDULED TO BE IN
GENOA OCTOBER 16-17.

3. PENDING YOUR REPORT OF ITALIAN REACTION TO ABOVE
APPROACH, NO COMMITMENT SHOULD BE MADE TO ISRAELIS RE
SUPPLY OF BLANKETS. KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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